

Health ethicists explore Vatican's call to defend human dignity

The Plunkett Centre for Ethics will explore the implications of the Vatican's *Dignitas Infinita*, issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith.

This online public event will provide an opportunity to further understand and discuss how the document informs contemporary ethics and Christian practice.

Plunkett Centre for Ethics Director Associate Professor Xavier Symons and Professor James Franklin, Honorary Professor of Mathematics at the University of New South Wales, will lead the discussion. Professor Bernadette Tobin, Reader in Philosophy at the Plunkett Centre for Ethics, will moderate.

The panel will examine how the Vatican's teachings on the absolute dignity of the person intersect with current ethical debates and the everyday responsibilities of Christians.

Associate Professor Symons said it was vital to examine the profound theological and ethical considerations outlined in *Dignitas Infinita*, exploring its broader impact on both the church and the wider community.

“*Dignitas Infinita* reiterates the Church's deep commitment to the inherent dignity of every person, which is particularly relevant in today's healthcare context,” he said.

“It challenges us to consider how our healthcare systems and policies uphold this dignity, especially in the most vulnerable phases of life.

“This event aims to unpack these complex themes, offering a pathway for integrating these values into practical healthcare ethics.”

The Plunkett Centre for Ethics, a partnership of Australian Catholic University, St Vincent's Health Network, and Calvary Healthcare, is dedicated to advancing ethical standards in health care and public policy through education and research.

Event Details

Topic: Discussion on *Dignitas Infinita* and Its Implications for Contemporary Ethics and Christian Responsibilities

Date: Friday, 3 May 2024

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Location: Online

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